

SAFER TIMES

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THE SAN FRANCISCO RETROFIT PROJECTS OVERVIEW

Here is an update on the five Caltrans earthquake retrofit projects in San Francisco.

THE WEST SPAN

Retrofit work from Yerba Buena Island to the San Francisco Anchorage began in Summer 1998. Work on the piers and anchorage will be completed by Fall 2001, while the work on the towers and superstructure will continue through 2003.

BAYSHORE VIADUCT

The Bayshore Viaduct project targets the elevated highway from Fourth Street to Sixteenth Street. Work began in Spring 1999 and is scheduled for completion in Summer 2002.

THE WEST APPROACH

The West Approach project begins at the anchorage where the West Span project ends, and extends west to the Fifth Street ramps on I-80. Work will begin this Fall and continue to Fall 2007.

YERBA BUENA ISLAND

Strengthening the Yerba Buena Island viaduct has been completed. Reinforcement of the tunnel portal walls and the rock slope adjacent to the west portal of the tunnel is scheduled for completion this summer.

THE CENTRAL FREEWAY

The elevated Central Freeway (US 101) connects I-80 with Fell and Oak Streets. Work has been completed to bring the existing structure up to seismic standards. However, an extensive three-year study for environmental review and design for the new structure is underway. Construction is scheduled to begin in Summer 2002.



SEISMIC RETROFIT UNDERWAY ON WEST SPAN OF THE BAY BRIDGE

The seismic retrofit of the West Span of the Bay Bridge is one of five projects planned by Caltrans for the western part of the San Francisco-Oakland bridge system. After years of research and planning, work on the West Span has moved into a more visible construction phase. A project of



West Span Retrofit in Progress

this magnitude will involve some temporary inconvenience for people who use the Bay Bridge and targeted roadways, as well as those who live and work nearby.

Caltrans has already begun retrofitting the steel bridge supports on Main Street. Work is scheduled to begin in April on the bridge supports adjacent to the Portside building. This portion of the seismic retrofit project is scheduled to take approximately one year to complete.

The retrofit work includes:

- Strengthening the concrete foundations
- Replacing rivets on each tower with bolts
- Installing additional structural steel elements
- Erecting temporary support towers to install the seismic isolation bearings
- Adding cross-bracings over Main Street

WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS?

Noise: We anticipate that most of the work including rivet removal will be done between 8 am and 8 pm.

Traffic: At least one lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained on Main Street, except

for approximately a one-week period in Spring 2001. By late March, access to the parking garage for Portside residents will be reduced until June 2001.

Parking spaces adjacent to the bridge supports at Spear Street, the Embarcadero and Main Street will be impacted. Pedestrian access will always be maintained along Main Street, Spear Street and the Embarcadero.

Debris: Noise blankets will be installed surrounding the work areas to help reduce noise and protect the area from falling debris.

"Work will be done at night and during off-peak traffic hours whenever possible."

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SEISMIC RETROFIT

(Continued from front page)

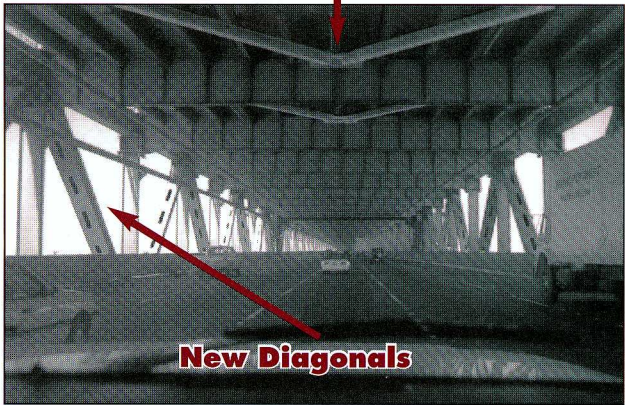
WORK ON THE SUSPENSION SPANS

The staging of platforms and scaffolding for the retrofit work on the suspension span bridge is scheduled to begin in April.

The retrofit work includes:

- Strengthening the steel towers by adding new plates
- Replacing rivets with high-strength bolts
- Installing dampers (energy absorbing devices)
- Installing new bracings under both decks
- Replacing all diagonal members of the deck trusses

New Lateral Bracings of Floor Beams



Strengthening the Bay Bridge

WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS?

Noise: The rivet removal and spot blasting on the bridge structure between Beale Street and the Embarcadero will be scheduled generally between 8 am and 8 pm.

Traffic: It will be necessary to schedule daily lane closures during off-peak commute hours on the bridge. During the project, it will be necessary to close the upper deck

of the bridge (westbound) to allow for overhead work. These closures will be scheduled when the traffic on the bridge is normally low (Sunday between 1 am and 5 am). This retrofit work is scheduled to begin in late summer.

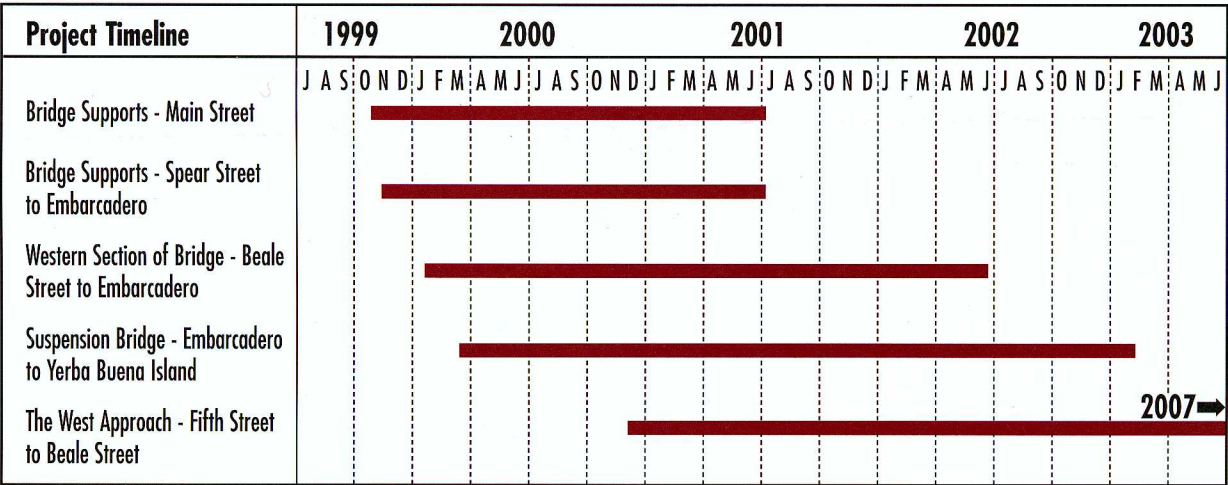
Debris: Enclosures will be staged to assure full containment for paint removal.

REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

The Caltrans San Francisco Earthquake Retrofit (SAFER) office provides a point of contact for residents, commuters, businesses and city agencies that may be impacted by the seismic retrofit projects or that may wish to know the status of the work.

If you have questions, please call our Community Outreach Coordinator Veronica Faisant at 817-1717, ext. 435. If you use TTY, dial 817-1718. For updated project information, call 817-1717, ext. 415.

You can also communicate with us directly via email: safersf@aol.com, or visit our web site at www.safersf.com.



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